

# EFL Regional Competition for 8th Grade Primary School Students 2005

Code name: \_\_\_\_\_

**Reading comprehension** (time limit: 40 minutes)

*Read the following article from the Observer magazine and then do the exercises below.*

## **The Other Jackson**

Janet Jackson, the youngest of nine children, was born in 1966. She became a child star of American TV soaps after being spotted in a television appearance with her brothers, The Jackson Five. In the past ten years she has recorded five albums, the last two of them providing her with twelve American Top Five singles.

Initially overshadowed by her brothers and sisters, she has now become famous in her own right. As a female singing star, only a handful of other artists - Madonna, Whitney Houston and Gloria Estefan, for example - provide her with serious competition.

Janet has managed to create a new art form, a mixture of music, dance and fashion which is perfect for the video age. She is small and rather shy which makes her seem vulnerable. She is also much more natural than many of today's stars.

Janet was born in Gary, Indiana, but moved with her family to the West Coast when she was two. She was brought up in the deluxe Jackson compound in Encino, California, with its own zoo and private cinema. She would turn on the TV to find likenesses of her brothers dancing to "ABC" and "I want you back".

By the age of seven she was performing in the family's live stage act. Janet and her brother Randy would do impressions of Sony & Cher, W.C. Fields and Mae West. Then came her enrolment in the Valley Professional, a school for children in the entertainment business, small parts in TV series and a recording contract with A&M Records.

At the age of eighteen she moved away from the family to live in New York. She then secretly married Motown singer James De Barge. The marriage only lasted sixty days and ended in annulment. "All my life I had people telling me what to do. I wanted to do something on my own. So I ran away to get married."

Janet came from a large, tight-knit family with a dominant and ambitious father who turned from his own minor music career to direct those of his children. Trying to become independent and gain control of her life must have been very difficult. It would be understandable if she had had to give up some things. Does she have any regrets?

"No. None. If I had my life to live all over again, I'd do it exactly the same. Everything I had experienced, good or bad, was for a reason, and that was to prepare me for today and tomorrow."

**I. Read the following article and circle the adjective that best describes Janet Jackson:**

**A** unhappy    **B** positive    **C** aggressive    **D** sophisticated

**(5 points)**

**II. Choose and circle the best answer to each question:**

**1. How did Janet Jackson become a TV star?**

- A. Someone saw her performing with her brothers on TV.
- B. Her brothers saw her performing on TV.
- C. She made ten albums.

**2. Why was her childhood unusual?**

- A. It was exciting because her family moved so often.
- B. It was unusual because her family were very rich and famous.
- C. It was great because she had her own zoo.

**3. What was her family like when she was a child?**

- A. They were very close, but had a dominant and ambitious father.
- B. They were not very close, but had a dominant and ambitious father.
- C. They were very close, but did not have a dominant and ambitious father.

**4. Why did she move away and get married?**

- A. Because she wanted to be independent.
- B. Because she did not want anyone to come to the wedding.
- C. Because she wanted to be rich and famous.

**5. How does she feel about her life so far?**

- A. She feels that the things that have happened to her have prepared her well for the life she leads.
- B. She feels sorry about some things that happened in the past and wishes she could change them.
- C. She feels that her life is a fairy-tale.

**3 points for each correct answer**

**(15 points)**

**III. Look again at the text and find and write words with the following meanings.**

1. noticed (paragraph 1)

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2. made to appear less important (paragraph 2)

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3. a small number of people (paragraph 2)

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4. can easily be hurt (paragraph 3)

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5. show business (paragraph 5)

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6. roles (paragraph 5)

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7. close family (paragraph 7)

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8. controlling father (paragraph 7)

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9. feeling sorry about something in the past (paragraph 7)

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10. can be understood (paragraph 7)

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**2 points for each correct answer (20 points)**

**Total: (40 points)**

## KEY TO THE READING SECTION

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- I. B
- II. 1.A, 2B, 3A, 4A, 5A
- III. 1. SPOTTED  
2. OVERSHADOWED  
3. HANDFUL  
4. VULNERABLE  
5. ENTERTAINMENT  
6. PARTS  
7. TIGHT-KNIT FAMILY  
8. DOMINANT FATHER  
9. REGRET(S)  
10. UNDERSTANDABLE

# EFL Regional Competition for 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Primary School Students

Code name: \_\_\_\_\_

## Use of English (time limit: 80 minutes)

1. Write the correct form of the verbs in brackets. Use the Present Simple or Continuous Tense.

- a) If I say I love you, I \_\_\_\_\_(mean) it!
- b) Please be quiet! You \_\_\_\_\_(make) so much noise I can't concentrate.
- c) Sam \_\_\_\_\_(play) a lot of football these days. He wants to get fit.
- d) The rehearsal \_\_\_\_\_(finish) at four so I'll be back at half past four.
- e) \_\_\_\_\_(you / believe) in life after death?
- f) They \_\_\_\_\_(speak) Spanish and Catalan in Barcelona.
- g) What language \_\_\_\_\_(she / speak)? I can't understand a word she's saying!
- h) He's really clever. He \_\_\_\_\_(understand) quantum physics.
- i) The sun \_\_\_\_\_(set) in the West.
- j) What \_\_\_\_\_(you / do) later? Do you fancy going out?

**1 point for each correct answer**

**/10**

2. Write the correct form of the verbs in brackets. Use the Past Simple or Continuous Tense.

- a) While I \_\_\_\_\_(walk) down the road, I \_\_\_\_\_(run) into Bill.
- b) Alan \_\_\_\_\_(meet) Helen while he \_\_\_\_\_(travel) in Morocco.
- c) Sally \_\_\_\_\_(break) her leg while she \_\_\_\_\_(ski).
- d) While I \_\_\_\_\_(shop), somebody \_\_\_\_\_(steal) my car.
- e) While he \_\_\_\_\_(read) the newspaper, the cat \_\_\_\_\_(jump) on the table.

**1 point for each correct answer**

**/10**

3. Choose the best option.

- a) Jim 's *never seen / never saw* this film. I'm sure he'll like it.
- b) WOW! *Did you already do / Have you already done* the housework?
- c) They *didn't get / haven't got married* in the end.
- d) I haven't been on holiday *for / since* ages.
- e) Francis *has been / gone* to Jamaica. She'll be back next month.
- f) I *live / 've lived* here for eight years.
- g) The rabbit *dug / has dug* a hole in our garden last night.
- h) A tornado *has hit / hit* north – west America and several people were killed.
- i) Hey look! Concorde's *just landed / just landed*.
- j) Ever since I was a child I *wanted / 've wanted* to go to Zanzibar.

**1 point for each correct answer**

**/10**

4. Put in the correct verb forms.

- a) If it \_\_\_\_\_(rain), we \_\_\_\_\_(have) the party inside.
- b) I \_\_\_\_\_(be) happy if I \_\_\_\_\_(pass) my exam.
- c) If you \_\_\_\_\_(leave) now, you \_\_\_\_\_(catch) the train.
- d) John says he \_\_\_\_\_(work) as a taxi driver if he \_\_\_\_\_(need) money.
- e) If I \_\_\_\_\_(not be) free tomorrow evening, I \_\_\_\_\_(see) you on Friday.
- f) Mary \_\_\_\_\_(study) Chinese next year if she \_\_\_\_\_(have) time.
- g) I \_\_\_\_\_(drive) you to the station if I \_\_\_\_\_(can) find my car keys.
- h) If he \_\_\_\_\_(marry) her, he \_\_\_\_\_(not have) a happy life.
- i) \_\_\_\_\_(you / stop) smoking if the doctor \_\_\_\_\_(tell) you that you must?
- j) If we \_\_\_\_\_(talk) to the boss very politely, \_\_\_\_\_(he / listen) to us?

**1 point for each correct answer**

**/20**

5. Choose the best option.

- a) I think I'm *taking* / *'ll take* Fred to the doctor. He's got a temperature.
- b) Watch out! That ladder *will* / *is going to fall* on you.
- c) Don't let Beatrice take your toys. She *'ll break* / *she's breaking* them.
- d) *Patrick's going to read* / *'ll read* law at university.
- e) If you don't study. You're *failing* / *'ll fail* your exams.
- f) David's *starting* / *'s going to start* cycling to work. He wants to get fit.
- g) This time next week, I *'ll be* / *am* on the beach.

**1 point for each correct answer**

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6. Put the verbs in brackets into the correct form of the Present or Past Passive.

- a) Arabic \_\_\_\_\_(write) from right to left.
- b) Out windows \_\_\_\_\_(clean) once a month.
- c) These books \_\_\_\_\_(leave) in the classroom yesterday.
- d) Jaguar cars \_\_\_\_\_(not make) in America.
- e) I don't think this room \_\_\_\_\_(clean) yesterday.
- f) Nobody \_\_\_\_\_(tell) what was hapopening.
- g) Those programmes \_\_\_\_\_(watch) by millions of people every week.
- h) A lot of oil \_\_\_\_\_(use) in Greek cooking.
- i) He \_\_\_\_\_(send) away to school when he was twelve.
- j) My name \_\_\_\_\_(not spell) with a Y.

**1 point for each correct answer**

**/10**

7. Put in A, AN, THE or NOTHING --.

- a) My sister lives in \_\_\_\_ big flat.
- b) 'Where's \_\_\_\_ phone?' 'It's in \_\_\_\_ kitchen.'
- c) My brother has got \_\_\_\_ loud voice.
- d) Most people like \_\_\_\_ animals.
- e) Do you \_\_\_\_ play tennis?
- f) \_\_\_\_\_ music's too loud. Please turn it down.
- g) Have you ever seen \_\_\_\_ Eiffel tower?
- h) My brother is \_\_\_\_ doctor.
- i) Andy works at \_\_\_\_ Apollo theatre.
- j) \_\_\_\_\_ River Rhone runs into \_\_\_\_ Mediterranean Sea.

**1 point for each correct answer**

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8. *Prepositions. Correct the mistakes.*

A: What are you doing on tomorrow?

B: I'm busy. I've got a meeting on 11.30.

A: Do you fancy going out at Friday?

B: No, I can't. I'm working on the evening that day.

A: Oh, OK. What are you doing on the weekend then?

B: Well, there's a football match in Saturday afternoon.

A: How about meeting on the morning?

B: No, sorry. It's the 15<sup>th</sup>. I have a meeting at the 15<sup>th</sup> of every month.

**1 point for each correct answer**

**/8**

9. *Write the comparative and superlative of the following adjectives.*

ADJECTIVE	COMPARATIVE	SUPERLATIVE
easy		
good		
popular		
hot		
nice		
bad		
difficult		

**1 point for each correct answer**

**/14**

**TOTAL: \_\_\_\_\_ / 100**

**SCORED: \_\_\_\_\_**



## KEY TO THE GRAMMAR SECTION

**NOTE:** *Answers spelled incorrectly will not be accepted.*

1. mean- 're making – 's playing – finishes – Do you believe – speak – is she speaking – understands – sets – are you doing
2. was walking – ran – met – was traveling – broke – was skiing – was shopping – stole – was reading – jumped
3. 's never seen – Have you already done -didn't get – for – gone – 've lived – dug – hit – 's just landed – 've wanted
4. rains – 'll have – 'll be – pass – leave – 'll catch – 'll work – needs – am not – 'll see – 'll study – has – 'll drive – can – marries – 'll not (won't) have – will you stop – tells – talk – will he listen
5. 'll take – is going to fall – 'll break – 's going to – 'll fail – 's going to start – 'll be
6. is written – are cleaned – were left – are not made – was cleaned – was told – are watched – is used – was sent – is not spelled
7. a / the/ the / a / -- / -- / The / the / a / the / The / the
8. ---/ at / on / in / at / on / in / on
9. easier – easiest ; better – best ; more popular – most popular ; hotter – hottest ; nicer – nicest ; worse – worst; more difficult – most difficult.